



County Corner

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Flathead County Juvenile Detention Center

The Flathead County Juvenile Detention Center is run by the Sheriff's Office. The facility currently has a staff of ten full-time officers, two part-time officers and one part-time certified teacher. The facility is located at 800 South Main Street in Kalispell, just south of the Court House.

The Juvenile Detention Center houses delinquent males and females between the ages of 10 and 18 years of age. A youth is placed in the detention center for committing a criminal act and their detainment is required to protect persons or property. A youth may also be detained if he/she has been placed on juvenile probation for a history of criminal behavior and



Pictured are: Sue Van Luven, school teacher (left) and Shelley Hildebrandt, Program Coordinator (right).

Chief Juvenile Detention Officer LAURIE REBUCK



Laurie has been employed with the Sheriff's Office almost 20 years. She began as an Adult Detention Officer in 1988. In 1990 she was one of six detention officers who were promoted to the newly acquired sergeant positions in the adult detention facility. Following that, she transferred to the Warrants and Extraditions Department. In 1999 when the Sheriff's Office acquired the Juvenile Detention Center, Laurie assumed her current position as Chief Juvenile Detention Officer.

the youth violates his rules of probation. Maximum capacity of the facility is 12 youth. Over the course of time the facility has been overcapacity on several occasions which necessitated the transfer of some youth to other detention facilities within the State.

Order is maintained throughout the facility by the implementation of a Level System which allows the youth to earn extra privileges while at the facility. Detainees must participate in a daily routine of cleaning their cell (cells are inspected daily), using good hygiene, practicing and observing the dress code and attendance at daily educational programs and school. There are behavioral expectancies which require that the youth get along while incarcerated and that they are respectful toward facility personnel. Rewards for the positive behavior include: weekend movies, additional visitation privileges, and additional activity time to watch television or play board games with other detained youth.

The facility also provides an opportunity for school. The curriculum is offered by a certified teacher who follows the standards as set by the State of Montana. The program is monitored by the County Superintendent of Schools. Our school program is designed to work with the students in their current education program by providing the curriculum provided by their school and allowing the youth to keep caught up with their assignments. The youth are also given an opportunity to earn credits towards their high school diploma through School District No. 5's Bridge Program. The education program will also provide tutoring for youth who are eligible and wish to pursue a GED. Testing for the GED is provided at the facility and some students have left the facility having received their GED.

Other programs are provided at the facility by a group of very faithful volunteers which include: Literacy Volunteers of Flathead County, Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Corrective Thinking, and Church.

"We provide responsive and accountable services to protect and enhance the Flathead community."

— County Commissioners: Dale Lauman, Gary Hall & Joe Brenneman